

## GREAT CAKE WALK IN JACKSON WARD

Gotten Up Under the Auspices of  
Polite Society.

MANY WHITE PEOPLE THERE.

Jim Washington and His Partner,  
Fancy Washington, Carried Off  
First Honors—Description of  
Scenes at the Performance.

The first great cake walk under the auspices of polite society was pulled off at Price's Hall, on Leigh street near Third. It began with a bustle before midnight. There were no casualties, and with the exception of some over-enthusiastic cheering and such confusion as necessarily results from an over-crowded hall, very good behavior prevailed.

For several days it was rumored about town a celebrated social function which would bring together the wealthiest members of the Jackson Ward Fair. Hundreds would take place last Friday night.

Those who were expected to take part in the affair looked forward to it as an epoch in the annals of Jackson Ward.

## ROYAL BAKING POWDER

ABSOLUTELY PURE

Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

were a blue vest and a huge chrysanthemum. Besides several other things. His coat had red and white ribbons on it, and John cut some figures that will go down as "landmarks" in the history of cake-walks. The band trotted according to the latest and most approved style. "Georgia Cake-Walk" and the nine couples entered in a flourish.

Such a display of costumery was never before seen in this city. It would be useless to attempt to give even a vague picture of the scene without plenty of red, blue, green, yellow, and pink shades. Then there were white silk dresses, white slippers, crimson shoes, bracelets and anklets in gorgeous array, and feathered hats and white gloves. In addition, warts, and green feathers, and rings, and diamonds, and bows, and bells and all that. Such colors have never been seen since Julius Caesar's last triumph, when rare and costly Persian silks protected the people in the grandstand at the big chariot race, and cock-tails were served every twenty minutes. It was a dazzling display like a vast forest in autumn after the first frost.

UNIQUE STYLES.

The couples were dressed collectively. From north to south they marched. There was no particular style of locomotion required. Some walked, others ambled; a



JIM WASHINGTON AND FANCY WASHINGTON  
The Winning Couple in the Great Jackson Ward Cake Walk Friday Night.

clared that it would be the most celebrated cake walk ever held in Virginia or the South. Songs, including "New Jersey," "Portuguese," etc.

For a week the expert trained walkers have been rehearsing for the event. They selected their girls with reference to their respective qualifications of grace, style, versatility and previous achievements on the floor of competition. The fact that the affair was to be witnessed by three or four dozen white people made it still more important function.

### THE BIG CAKE.

The cake was given by J. C. Potts, a prominent citizen of Southern Miss., Va. It weighed fifteen pounds, was a triumph in cake architecture, and at \$5.00 laying on this scale, the ordinary art was a 25-cent display as conspicuously as a bus stopper on a sandy hillock. This was the prize for the male winner, while his partner got the cake.

By 10 o'clock the hall was very well filled, with the exception of enough space reserved for the walkers. At one end seats were reserved for the white people, and some fifty of them, including a few well known citizens, were interested spectators.

The walkers and their friends arrived late according to the style in Jackson Ward. Nearly all of the rich silk backs and fancy-figured seats. All the rooms seen in the grand hotel were occupied by the famous walking apparel. The contents of nearly every wardrobe possessed by the negro inhabitants of the Ward must have been picked over to supply such variety of shade and combination. It was a revelation in that, a bewildering collection of brocaded silks, variegated ribbons, ever-shifting and constantly changing fabrics collected from every available source.

### SCENE CELEBRITIES.

Pete Allison, the celebrated Jackson Ward singer, appeared with his little coo, Birdie, in a hat and coat. He wore his blue skirt from a huge diamond weighing something less than an ounce, and glittering like a heavy chandelier in the Hoffman House bar.

Then there was Lawrence Tinsley, who was the best dressed man in the house. He wore the regulation frock coat, light trousers, fully creased, patent leather shoes, dark-red silk vest, a high collar rounded at the front, white Ascot and light gloves. His clothes fit him nicely. Lawrence's appearance attracted no little attention. He was looked upon as a man of taste.

At half past six John Collins, the leader of the cake-walk announced a song or two. Then a quartette sang a selection about some fellow being "Not so smart as to melt the snow." The voices were out of gear to some extent, and one of the singers sang a bum note that didn't fit. A solo followed and then a waltz was announced. This part of the programme developed the fact that several ways to waltz. Some of the couples did a waltz step between times while others attempted a kind of Maypole swinging circle that demonstrated beyond a doubt that the dancers who adopted the more philosophical style of waltzing were not the only dancers on the floor, but that there were others.

The waltz was followed by a square dance in which some entirely new and original steps—shuffles were introduced. All of this half came after a jive by Jim Washington. New fun in addition to keeping the champion close and Jim Washington, who was the reputation of being one of the shuffles among the women who think about matrimony. Jim had not been on the floor long before visitors could see he had a high place among the girls, an exclusive society man, "strictly in the push," as one member remarked.

Finally all was ready for the cake walk. It was a notable event. Nine couples participated, and one unique walker announced that he wasn't invited in time to get himself up properly, but would challenge any walker in the city for a 25-cent display.

### NO RAZORS IN IT.

There was some difficulty in securing judges. Five were wanted. A bright yellow negro with a dress suit on pleaded for some time before those white men were willing to serve. "You needn't be afraid," he argued. "I givine to protect you, and dar ain't no razors in dis."

This assurance smoothed the way, and then the judges took their stand on the rostrum, whence they could get a full view of the door.

John Collins led the procession, He

## GRAND LODGE MEETS TUESDAY.

The Working Committee is Already  
in Session Here.

## JUDGE DUKE WILL BE CHOSEN.

He Will Be Selected for a Second  
Term—History of the Organiza-  
tion and a List of the Grand  
Masters.

The Grand Lodge of Virginia Masons  
will meet here in annual session next  
Tuesday night. It will continue in ses-  
sion three days.

The Grand Lodge Working Committee  
met here Friday and held three sessions  
yesterday. The members of this commit-  
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rector district No. 7 and grand lecturer;  
Right Worshipful Parke Jones,  
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